

210183US6X

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

Gianluca GIRARDI, et al.

SERIAL NO: 09/886,994

FILED: JUNE 25, 2001

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: EXAMINER: NGUYEN, T

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: GROUP ART UNIT: 1764

FOR: PROCESS FOR SEPARATING MIXTURES
OF HYDROCARBON ISOMERS IN
GAS PHASE ON MOLECULAR SIEVES

RECEIVED
JUN 27 2003
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1700

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated February 6, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

A clean copy of the claims incorporating any amendment is shown below.

Please amend Claims 1 and 6 as follows:

- B1*
1. (Twice Amended) A process for separating mixtures of hydrocarbon isomers in gas phase on molecular sieves, comprising the steps of:
providing a plurality of columns each including molecular sieves and configured to function alternately such that the columns are designated to function from a secondary